



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.1801 | FAX (517) 373.5801

www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/hardiman/

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Contact: Alan Bolter
517-373-1801

Sen. Hardiman urges governor to sign ban on union-preference rules for adult-care homes

LANSING — Sen. Bill Hardiman urged the governor to sign his legislation that would block costly rules on adult-care facilities so Michigan families have a broad range of care options at a reasonable price.

Hardiman's legislation, Senate Bill 1026, and related bills have been passed by the Legislature and now go before the governor to consider.

"I hope the governor recognizes the need to ensure Michigan families have safe, affordable care for their loved ones," said Hardiman, R-Kentwood. "The rules being considered are a step in the wrong direction. They needlessly favor adult-care homes with collective-bargaining agreements and drive others to unionize."

Under regulations being considered by the Granholm administration, a group-home facility would have to maintain extensive paperwork on employees, hiring and compensation, or it could have simply sign a collective bargaining agreement and be deemed in compliance. Vulnerable people shouldn't have less protection or state oversight simply because the employees at their facility are unionized.

Industry analysts have estimated the additional cost to care providers to be at least \$35 million a year.

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